

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants once again note that acknowledgment of the receipt and consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements (IDS) filed on August 11, 2006 (received by the PTO on August 14, 2006) has not been received. As an indication of consideration of the references cited in this IDS, Applicants respectfully request an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 that accompanied the IDS.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claims 23, 32-41, 57, 59-61, 63, and 65-69 have been allowed.

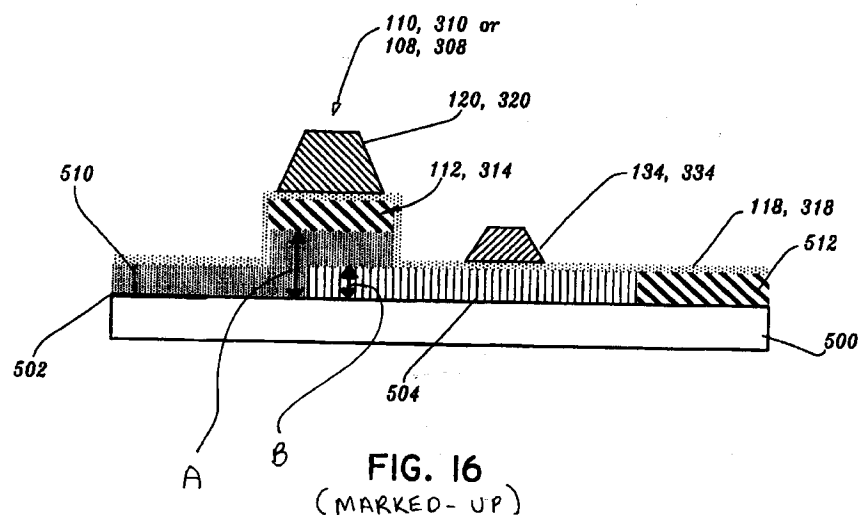
Claims 1 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,493,050 to Lien et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited reference fails to disclose or suggest all of the claimed features of the present invention, as defined in amended independent Claims 1 and 8. More specifically, the Lien et al. reference fails to disclose or suggest a liquid crystal display device (Claim 1) and a color filter substrate (Claim 8) in which, *inter alia*, “color filter materials of said color filters are formed of a substantially uniform thickness *in an area where said cell gap adjusting spacers cover said directly adjacent terminal edges of said color filters*” (emphasis added).

One example of an embodiment of the invention defined in Claims 1 and 8 is shown in Applicants' Figure 5, which includes color filter materials (G, B) of color filters that are formed of a substantially uniform thickness in an area where the cell gap adjusting spacers

spacers (such as 25A) cover the directly adjacent terminal edges of the color filters.

In contrast, as can be seen in the following marked-up version of Figure 16 of the Lien et al. reference, the color filter material below the spacers is not of a substantially uniform thickness in an area where a cell gap adjusting spacers cover the directly adjacent terminal edges of the color filters. More specifically, as can be seen in the marked-up version of Figure 16 below, the material of color filter 510 is about twice as thick (as indicated by the arrow "A") as the thickness of the material of color filter 504 (as indicated by arrow "B"), in the area that is covered by spacer 108 (i.e., "in an area where said cell gap adjusting spacers [108] cover said directly adjacent terminal edges of the color filters [502, 504]").



Similarly, in Figure 17(right) of Lien et al., the material of the color filter layer 600 extending to the left of spacer 604 is about twice as thick as the material of the color filter layer 600 that extends to the right of spacer 604, in the area that is covered by spacer 604. Accordingly, as all of the features of independent Claims 1 and 8 are not disclosed or suggested in the Lien et al. reference, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this §103 rejection of Claims 1 and 8 for at least this reason.

Additionally, Applicants also respectfully submit that the Lien et al. reference fails to disclose or suggest the “domain defining projections” that are formed “with [the] same material as the spacers,” as defined in independent Claim 1. Similarly, Applicants respectfully submit that the Lien et al. reference fails to disclose or suggest the “domain defining projections” that are formed “with the same material as the cell gap adjusting spacers,” as defined in independent Claim 8.

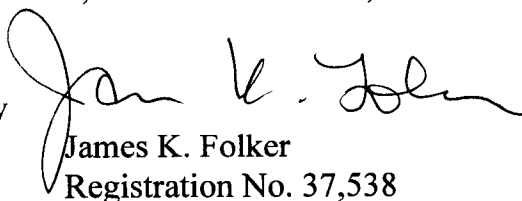
In contrast, components 114/134 of the Lien et al. reference, which the Examiner equated with the claimed “domain defining projections” are not made of the same material as dams 110/602 of Lien et al., which the Examiner equated with the claimed “spacers.” More specifically, dams 110/602 of Lien et al. are formed of both the color filter stacks 112 and layer 120. *See e.g.*, Lien et al., Fig. 1A, col. 5, lines 62-67 (“the thickness of layer 120 is about half of a cell gap (G) and color filter stacks 112 are formed such that the thickness of two of the color filter layers is about half of the cell gap such that the sum of the two equals the cell gap distance (G).”). In contrast, components 114/134 of Lien et al. are formed by layer 120 only. *See e.g.*, Lien et al., col. 5, lines 60-62 (“When layer 120 is patterned . . . and pretilt

patterned . . . and pretilt structure 134 (in this case a ridge 114 is shown) [is] formed.”). In summary, in Lien et al., components 114/134 are formed of layer 120 only, and dams 110/602 are formed of both layer 120 and color filter stacks 114. Thus, as components 114/134 and dams 110/602 are not made of the same material, the language of Claims 1 and 8, reciting that the domain defining projections are formed with the same material as the spacers, is not satisfied. Accordingly, for this reason also, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this §103 rejection of Claims 1 and 8 under Lien et al.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claimed invention. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would aid in the prosecution of the application, or that outstanding issues exist, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

If a Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for response is required to make the attached response timely, it is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for response in the above-identified application for the period required to make the attached response timely. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this Application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069.

Respectfully submitted,
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By 
James K. Folker
Registration No. 37,538

January 21, 2009
Suite 2500
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 360-0080
Customer No. 24978

P:\DOCS\1508\65123\DY0546.DOC